

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A transfer switch comprising:
output contacts;
primary input contacts;
secondary input contacts; and
a switch stack alternately connecting the output contacts to the primary input contacts and the secondary input contacts via at least one conductive path; and
a magnetic flux barrier at least partially positioned near the conductive path to minimize magnetic interaction with the conductive path as current travels through the switch stack.
2. (Original) The transfer switch of claim 1 wherein the flux barrier is a planar sheet.
3. (Currently Amended) ~~The transfer switch of claim 3~~ A transfer switch comprising:
output contacts;
primary input contacts;
secondary input contacts; and
a switch stack alternately connecting the output contacts to the primary input contacts and the secondary input contacts via at least one conductive path; and
a flux barrier at least partially positioned near the conductive path to minimize magnetic interaction with the conductive path as current travels through the switch stack,
wherein the flux barrier is a planar sheet wherein the planar sheet is made of steel.
4. (Original) The transfer switch of claim 1 wherein the transfer switch includes a plurality of conductive paths and the flux barrier isolates each of conductive paths from magnetic interaction with the other conductive paths.
5. (Original) The transfer switch of claim 4 wherein the switch stack includes

multiple cassettes, each cassette including a conductive path.

6. (Original) The transfer switch of claim 5 wherein the flux barrier is secured to at least one of the cassettes.

7. (Original) The transfer switch of claim 5 wherein each cassette includes an output contact, a primary input contact and a secondary input contact.

8. (Original) The transfer switch of claim 5 wherein the flux barrier includes different portions that are at least partially positioned between each of the cassettes.

9. (Original) The transfer switch of claim 8 wherein the different portions of the flux barrier isolate each cassette entirely from magnetic interaction with the other cassettes.

10. (Original) The transfer switch of claim 8 wherein the different portions of the flux barrier are integral with one another.

11. (Original) A method of supplying current to an electric load comprising:
switching contacts within a transfer switch to alternately engage the switching contacts with primary input contacts that are coupled to a primary power source and secondary input contacts that are coupled to a secondary power source; and
minimizing magnetic interaction with a conductive path in the transfer switch as current travels through the transfer switch.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein minimizing magnetic interaction with the conductive path includes placing a flux barrier on both sides of the conductive path.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the flux barriers are inserted along an entire length of the conductive path.

14. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the transfer switch includes a plurality of conductive paths and minimizing magnetic interaction between the conductive paths includes inserting a flux barrier between each of the conductive paths to isolate each conductive path from magnetic interaction with the other conductive paths.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein inserting a flux barrier between the conductive paths includes mounting at least one flux barrier to a cassette within the transfer switch.

16. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein inserting a flux barrier between the conductive paths includes inserting the flux barrier into a switch stack.

17. (Original) A transfer switch comprising:

output contacts;

primary input contacts;

secondary input contacts;

a switch stack alternately connecting the output contacts to the primary input contacts and the secondary input contacts via a conductive path; and

means for reducing magnetic interaction with the conductive path in the transfer switch.

18. (Original) The transfer switch of claim 17, wherein the means for reducing magnetic interaction with the conductive path includes a flux barrier positioned near the conductive path to minimize magnetic interaction with the conductive path.

19. (Original) The transfer switch of claim 17, wherein the transfer switch includes a plurality of conductive paths, and the flux barrier includes a plurality of portions such that each portion is positioned between a unique pair of conductive paths.

20. (Original) The transfer switch of claim 17, wherein the means for reducing magnetic interaction between the conductive paths is a planar steel sheet.